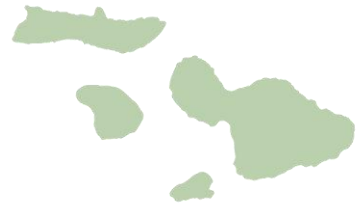
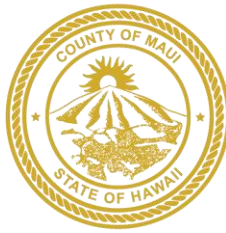


MICHAEL P. VICTORINO
MAYOR
MICHELE CHOUTEAU MCLEAN, AICP
DIRECTOR
JORDAN E. HART
DEPUTY DIRECTOR



DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
COUNTY OF MAUI
ONE MAIN PLAZA, 2200 MAIN STREET, SUITE 315
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

April 10, 2019

TESTIMONY OF MICHELE CHOUTEAU MCLEAN, AICP
PLANNING DIRECTOR
COUNTY OF MAUI

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND

Friday, April 12, 1:15 P.M.
Conference Room 229

GM 688 – NOMINATION OF JOSHUA KAAKUA TO THE KAHOO LAWE ISLAND RESERVE
COMMISSION

Sen. Kaialii Kahele, Chair
Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of GM 688.

I have had the pleasure of serving on the KIRC with Joshua Kaakua since mid-2015 when he was appointed to his first four-year term. In December 2016, he was chosen as our Vice Chair, and we have coordinated KIRC meetings together since then.

Vice Chair Kaakua is fully dedicated to the restoration of Kanaloa Kahoolawe and to the KIRC's mission. He has been a strong advocate for the Protect Kahoolawe Ohana, the organization he represents on the KIRC, and he skillfully balances this advocacy with his commitment and responsibilities as a commissioner.

I hope that you will confirm Joshua Kaakua to a second four-year term on the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission; he has my full support. Thank you for this opportunity to provide my comments. Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michele Chouteau McLean, AICP
Director of Planning, County of Maui
Chair, Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

KAHO`OLawe ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885
Website: <http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov>

COMMISSION MEMBERS

MICHELE MCLEAN, AICP
Chairperson
JOSHUA KAAKUA, Ed.D
Vice-Chair

C. KALIKO BAKER, PhD.
SUZANNE CASE
JONATHAN CHING, D.ARCH
HÖKŪLANI HOLT.
CARMEN HULU LINDSEY

Michael K. Nāho`opi`i
Executive Director

Testimony of MICHAEL K. NĀHO`OPTI Executive Director

Before the Senate Committee on

WATER & LAND

Friday, April 12, 2019
1:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE 688 – SUBMITTING FOR CONSIDERATION AND CONFIRMATION TO THE KAHOOLOWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION OF GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE JOSHUA KAAKUA

Governor's Message No. 688 submits for consideration and confirmation, Joshua Kaakua to serve on the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) in the seat reserved for a representative of the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana (PKO). On behalf of the Commission, I wish to express my strong support and recommend his confirmation.

During his first four-year term on the KIRC, Mr. Kaakua was instrumental in gaining support for our capital improvement projects. As a trained civil engineer, Mr. Kaakua help select and provided commission oversight on our successful Kaho`olawe Alternative Energy Project which implements energy savings at our Kaho`olawe base Camp and installed a photovoltaic-lithium ion battery system to convert Kaho`olawe as the first island in the State to have an electrical grid completely powered by alternative energy sources

Mr. Kaakua has been a member of the PKO for over 18 years and has served in many leadership positions within the organization. He has been trained and certified as a KIRC Assess Guide and has participated and lead many volunteer trips to the Kaho`olawe Island Reserve safely. His most currently involvement with Kaho`olawe has been as one of the PKO representatives on the joint KIRC/PKO/OHA working group that created the current long-term, community planning document for Kaho`olawe entitled: *I OLA KANALOA!*

Mr. Kaakua is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering, the University of Hawai`i with a Master's in Business Administration and the University of Southern California with a Doctorate's in Education. Joshua has been employed by the University of Hawai`i since 2002 teaching in the College of Engineering, directing the Native Hawaiian Science & Engineering Mentorship Program, and administering over \$10 million in extramural projects to improve STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education and outcomes for

underrepresented groups (including Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and women). Joshua currently serves as Diversity Specialist for the University of Hawai'i Office of STEM Education charged with providing UH system-wide leadership and support for STEM activities at UH and in Hawai'i.

Joshua's training as an engineer and experience working with native Hawaiian youth especially in the STEM field is a critical need for this commission as the KIRC continues on a series of Capital Improvement Projects including the development and construction of the KIRC Operational and Educational Center at Kihei.

Again, the KIRC strongly supports the confirmation of Joshua Kaakua to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. His commitment to the native Hawaiians and to Kaho'olawe makes him uniquely qualified for the position.

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 3:45:26 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Christopher M. Kaipulaumakaniolono	Testifying for Protect Kahoolawe Ohana	Support	No

Comments:

Josh has been an invaluable asset to both the commission and 'ohana. He holds aloha 'Ä• ina and aloha IÄ• hui as core guiding principles in both his judgement and decision making. I, along with the rest of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana, wholeheartedly endorse and support Josh Ka'akua.

Mahalo nui.

PROTECT KAHO‘OLAWE ‘OHANA
P.O. Box 39
Kaunakakai, Hawai'i 96748



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 688

Chair Kaiali‘i Kahele, Vice-Chair Gil Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land. Aloha, I am Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D. a physician in family health on the island of Moloka‘i and a founding member of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana. Dr. Kaakua is unable to be present today for this confirmation hearing because he is attending a Math workshop in Arkansas with a group of UH Math Faculty to redesign and revamp how we teach math (especially to the most underprepared students) that come to college with varying math fundamentals.

On behalf of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana, I am testifying in support of GM688 to confirm Dr. Joshua Kaakua to the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) through June 30, 2023. **HRS Chapter 6K Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Section 5. Commission** provides that "(1) One member shall be a member of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana." In 2015, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana nominated Dr. Kaakua to serve on the KIRC as the member representing the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana. Over the past four (4) years, Dr. Kaakua has served as a member and Vice-Chair of the KIRC. He has our full support to be confirmed to serve a second term on the Commission.

To summarize his qualifications to serve on the KIRC, Dr. Kaakua has been an active member of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana since 2001 (18 years). He is trained as a Kua - those members who provide for safe and meaningful journeys to the island. He is also trained as a KIRC Access Guide - in the ability to identify, mark and avoid unexploded ordnance. Dr. Kaakua is actively involved in the opening of an Ala Loa, around-the-island trail for the island and helps to lead many of the huaka‘i (cultural field trips to the island). Dr. Kaakua played an important role developing the I OLA KANALOA! LIFE TO KANALOA! 2026 strategic plan and has been active in implementing the plan.

Dr. Kaakua was born and raised on the Waimanaloa Hawaiian Homelands. He attended Punahou on Financial Aid where he was captain of the football and wrestling teams. Dr. Kaakua earned a Doctorate of Education degree from the University of Southern California (USC) in 2014, a Master of Arts degree in Business Administration from the University of Hawai‘i, Mānoa (UHM) in 2007 and a Bachelor of Science degree from Notre Dame University in 2002.

At UH-Mānoa, he directed a mentoring program to advance Native Hawaiians and Indigenous peoples (Pacific Islanders, Native American, Alaskan Natives) in Science, Technology, Engineering Mathematics. Currently, he is an Academic Program Officer in the UH System, Office of the Vice President for Community Colleges. He has raised over \$25 million in federal, state and industry grants. He has the support of his employer to continue to serve on the Commission.

Most importantly, Dr. Kaakua has the acknowledgement and confidence of both my generation and the upcoming generations to serve as a leader of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana. He is recognized as someone who always looks after the best interest of the island, the ‘Ohana and of those who travel with us to experience the island.

In closing, I urge the Senate Committee on Water and Land to pass GM 688 in confirmation of Dr. Kaakua to serve as a member of the KIRC through June 30, 2023. Mahalo.

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/5/2019 4:58:35 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul Lu'uwai	Testifying for Hawaiian CC	Support	No

Comments:

As a 39 year coach of Hawaiian Canoe Club of Maui keiki and master men divisions. We would like to give full support for another 4 years for Josh Kaakua. Josh is a great assest to the KIRC commissioners and would be an easy transsion from one term to the next. The Lu'uwai Ohana also would like to take this opportunity to support Josh. We have known Josh for over 15 years and beleive he has high moral and eithical standards. As Native Hawaiian's, we feel it is vital that the commission retains Josh. His veiws and well grounded cultural values will be anther assest.

Respectfully

Ka'uhane Lu'uwai (Hawaiian CC coach)



**Department of Land and Natural Resources
Aha Moku Advisory Committee
State of Hawaii
Post Office Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809**

LATE

Testimony of
Aha Moku Advisory Committee

Senate Committee on Water and Land

Friday, April 12, 2019
1:15 p.m.
Conference Room 229

**Governor's Message 688
Joshua Kaakua**

Governor's Message 688 has been submitted to the Senate Committee on Water and Land for consideration and confirmation as a member of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee, Joshua Kaakua, for a term to expire on June 30, 2023.

On behalf of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) and Moku O Kanaloa (Island of Kahoolawe), **we support this nomination.**

Joshua Kaakua has the experience, and the knowledge needed to be part of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). The vision and focus of KIRC is to restore the forests and endemic plant life, the reef, near shore and ecosystem of Kanaloa. Further, for the kino of Kanaloa to be restored, the kanaka maoli must be involved to ensure its protection and sustainability. Mr. Kaakua is capable of being a bridge between the people and the island. He is respectful to kupuna and has a deep love for his people. That alone will give him the capability to make good decisions and give sound mana'o to KIRC. He is the next generation that is needed to sustain the 'uhane of Kanaloa.

Aha Moku supports this gubernatorial nomination and urges this Senate Committee to confirm the appointment of Joshua Kaakua as a member of the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

Respectfully,

Leslie Kuloloio, Po'o, Moku O Kanaloa (Island of Kaho'olawe)
Hawaii State Aha Moku
Phone: 808-281-7652
Email: pokaiuli2@gmail.com

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/5/2019 4:35:33 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Pescaia	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support Joshua Kaakua for a second term as Commissioner on the Kahoolawe Island Reserve Commission. He has done an outstanding job of serving diligently, keeping informed of issues, and staying connected to the communities who are involved and who care about the stewardship of Kahoolawe. His background enriches the collective effort of the commission to navigate the difficult yet exciting future of a very special place. His clear reverence for his role builds integrity and respect for every decision he is a part of. I have appreciated his efforts in his first term and support his reappointment for a second. Mahalo.

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/5/2019 5:40:38 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tamra Ashlee Probst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Ladies and gentlemen of the court,

I stand in full confidence with Josh Kaakua and support his second term. He holds true in vision and with deep understanding of our culture and is of noble character.

mahalo.

Tamra Probst

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/5/2019 9:58:17 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Uluwehi Cashman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/6/2019 5:01:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Oahu County Committee of the Oahu County Democrats is proud to support the confirmation of Mr. Joshua Kaakua to the Kaoolawe Island Reserve Commission.

Mr. Kaakua has served capably for many years in the U.S. Department of Education and University of Hawaii system. There, he created pathways for countless students, particularly of Hawaiian ancestry, to attaining career in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). His previous work developing the Strategic Plan "I Ola Kanaloa! Life to Kanaloa" demonstrates his capability and competence in the management of Kahoolawe and its complex issues. We Democrats are proud to offer our support, and wish Mr. Kaakua every success on the Commission.

Please vote in favor of confirming Mr. Joshua Kaakua.

Thank you,
Dylan P. Armstrong, Vice Chair
Oahu County Committee, Oahu County Democrats

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/6/2019 4:19:01 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kylee Mar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 11:02:19 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
shauna edmunds	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 11:08:40 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Levi K. Hookano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have known Josh personally for several years and know him to be of the highest integrity. He is intelligent and collaborative, we will be lucky to have him serve in this capacity for the people of Hawaii.

I fully support his confirmation.

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 2:40:10 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Daniel Kawamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Members of the Legislature,

I am writing in support for Josh Ka'akua's continued appointment to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission.

I have known Josh since high school and for as long as I have known him, he has been a person of exceptional character. I am sure that others will write in support of him and testify to his intelligence and his passion for Kaho'olawe and Native Hawaiian issues. I echo those sentiments, but would also like to add from my personal experience regarding his qualities as a leader and organizer.

In high school, Josh and I served as co-captains of the Punahou wrestling team. Although there were three of us, Josh was generally regarded as the "prime" captain, and the person people looked to for leadership. I bring this up because even at a young age, Josh exhibited great leadership qualities. It is something that simply comes naturally to him.

In the last few years, Josh has remained active with our graduating class and I have gotten a chance to see his organizational skills in action. For over five years he has organized and coordinated our class volunteer activities for the Punahou carnival. He has also taken an active role in organizing events for our class reunion. Again, this sort of thing comes naturally to Josh.

This rare combination of intelligence, integrity, passion, leadership, and organizational skill make Josh the perfect fit for the commission. I have no doubt he will continue to perform exceptionally.

Sincerely,

Daniel Kawamoto

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 3:40:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raquel Kamalu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 3:55:14 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jonathan Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 4:17:50 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Davianna McGregor	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Kahele, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran and members of the Senate Water and Land Committee. Dr. Josh Kaakua has proven to be an excellent and visionary member and Vice-Chair of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission over the past four years. He is a thoughtful and dedicated leader of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. He is committed to healing the island and elevating it to become a leading center for Hawaiian cultural and scientific learning. I support his re-appointment to serve on the KIRC through 2023. Please pass GM 688 confirming his appointment. Mahalo!

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 4:11:50 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
KATIE KAMELAMELA	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 4:49:34 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Roxane Stewart	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 7:15:06 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Faith Kahale Saito	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I Ola Kanaloa!

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 8:20:21 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Aaron Bronson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Joshua Kaakua is strong standing member a pillar of leadership in not only the Hawaiian community but in education as a whole. His hard work and efforts have given guidance to many students over the years whom go into be successful leaders. I have no doubt that his skill will be carried to this new postion and he will be in humble service to the community

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 10:17:45 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon tanaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I've known J. Kaakua for over 25 years and his commitment for the betterment of our community and believe he could best serve your committee for another term. If you have further questions please feel to contact me at haku1234@aol.com.

malama pono,

Sharon Tanaka

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/9/2019 11:31:02 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Summer Mullins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 5:45:49 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Kaliko Baker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai e nā• Luna KĀ• nā• wai:

As Josh Ka'akua is the current Vice Chair of the Commission, he is inline to be the next Chair. He does great work on behalf of Kaho'olawe and the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC). He took a lead role in developing the long-term use plan for Kaho'olawe which included joint projects for the KIRC and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana.

Please re-appoint Dr. Ka'akua to the KIRC.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

C.M. Kaliko Baker, PhD

8 years as KIRC commissioner

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 10:13:30 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsea Hosoda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 10:21:43 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicole Cody	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 1:17:13 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Edward Kekoa Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 3:32:29 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaulu Lu?uwai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support the confirmation of Josh Kaakua to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Comission as the representative for the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana. He has been a great bridge between the organizations and is very active in making sure the 'Ohana is kept up-to-date with the movements and current events pertaining to KIRC.

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 6:02:50 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Belinda Borengasser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/10/2019 4:30:01 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joann kaakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha:

One important reason to reconfirm Joshua Kananimauloa Kaakua to the Kaho'olawe Island Rreserve Commision is his name. His middle name: Kananimauloa "Everlasting Beauty" speaks of the importance of keeping the island of Kaho'olawe as a place of lasting beauty. From the symbolic view of keeping the island as a place of beauty and hope to the 'opio of Hawai'i, Joshua's name embodies his life and committment to Hawaii's youth and future. His work as an educator & his involvement with youth organizations (Hui Malama O Ke Kai, Malama Honua Charter School) speak volumes. The Kaakua 'ohana has supported Protect Kahoolawe 'ohana from the 1970's. Mahalo, JoAnn L. Kaakua

Hawaii State DOE Counselor & Mother

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 11:02:20 AM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amber Namaka Whitehead	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 5:41:40 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kaakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT JOSHUA KAAKUA. HE IS COMMITTED AND DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF KAHOO LAWE AND OUR HAWAIIAN CULTURE.

LATE

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 9:14:04 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John Morioka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

GM-688

Submitted on: 4/11/2019 6:18:14 PM

Testimony for WTL on 4/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Blake J LaBenz	Individual	Support	No

Comments: